

## Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (RUSH, KENNETH)

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 3 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AN ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE  
US IS EXPECTED TO PRESS ISRAELIS FOR CONCESSIONS UNQUOTE  
BY LESLIE H. GELB WHICH APPEARED IN DECEMBER 3 ISSUE OF  
NEW YORK TIMES: QUOTE A FIRM CONSENSUS APPEARS TO HAVE  
BEEN REACHED WITHIN THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION THAT THE  
UNITED STATES MUST PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO MAKE SIGNI-  
FICANT CONCESSIONS IN THE FORTHCOMING MIDDLE EAST PEACE  
TALKS IN GENEVA, ACCORDING TO SEVERAL HIGH AMERICAN OFFI-  
CIALS.

LAST WEEK AT A MEETING WITH 37 DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PRESIDENT NIXON STRESSED THAT  
ISRAEL HAD TO REALIZE THAT WASHINGTON WAS HER ONLY FRIEND  
AMONG THE MAJOR POWERS AND THAT RETENTION OF LANDS CAP-  
TURED FROM THE ARABS WAS NOT A FEASIBLE POLICY. REPORTS  
ON THE MEETING BY REPRESENTATIVE IKE F. ANDREWS, DEMOCRAT  
OF NORTH CAROLINA, WERE NOT DENIED BY THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS OFFICE.

IN AN INTERVIEW OVER THE WEEKEND, A SENIOR FOREIGN POLICY  
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OFFICIAL SAID FLATLY, QUOTE WE ARE PREPARED TO LEAN ON

ISRAEL FOR A REASONABLE MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT UNQUOTE.

NEVERTHELESS, THIS OFFICIAL AND OTHERS ADD THAT MAJOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING AMERICAN POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST REMAIN UNANSWERED. WHAT IS A QUOTE REASONABLE UNQUOTE PEACE? HOW CAN THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION QUOTE LEAN ON UNQUOTE ISRAEL WITHOUT CALLING FORTH STRONG COUNTERPRESSURES FROM AMERICAN SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL? WHAT HELP CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THE SOVIET UNION? IS THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT LIKELY TO GIVE IN TO AMERICAN PRESSURES?

STATE DEPARTMENT EXPERTS ARE SAID TO HAVE PREPARED PAPERS OUTLINING A PEACE PACKAGE. ALTHOUGH DETAILS OF THESE PAPERS WERE NOT DISCLOSED, THEY WERE DESCRIBED AS INCLUDING THE RETURN OF ALMOST ALL CAPTURED ARAB LANDS, THE CREATION OF DEMILITARIZED ZONES IN THE SINAI PENINSULA AND ON THE WEST BANK OF JORDAN RIVER AND A QUOTE COMPLICATED UNQUOTE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE STATUS OF JERUSALEM, ALL UNDER NEGOTIATED INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES.

AN INFORMED FOREIGN DIPLOMAT SAID IN AN INTERVIEW THAT PREMIER GOLDA MEIR OF ISRAEL HAD BEEN ASSURED BY SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AND BY PRESIDENT NIXON THAT THERE WOULD BE NO SOVIET-AMERICAN PEACE PLAN AND NO SEPARATE AMERICAN PLAN. THE DIPLOMAT REPORTED THAT MR. KISSINGER HAD SAID THAT WASHINGTON HAD QUOTE NO FINAL CONCEPTIONS UNQUOTE OF A SETTLEMENT AND WOULD RATHER OFFER GOOD OFFICES WHERE THE ISRAELIS AND THE ARABS WERE DEADLOCKED.

THE SAME DIPLOMAT INSISTED THAT SO FAR WASHINGTON QUOTE HAD NOT TWISTED ISRAELI ARMS AT ALL UNQUOTE.

REGARDING MR. KISSINGER'S STATEMENTS TO MRS. MEIR THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMERICAN PEACE PLAN, THE DIPLOMAT SAID THAT THE SECRETARY HAD HAD TO IMPART DIFFERENT IMPRESSIONS TO DIFFERENT AUDIENCES.

MR. KISSINGER, HE CONTINUED, NEEDS TO CONVINCE THE ARABS THAT WASHINGTON MUST TAKE ACCOUNT OF PRO-ISRAELI PRESSURES. UNCLASSIFIED

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SURES WHILE CONVEYING THE IDEA THAT HE IS PUTTING PRESSURE ON ISRAEL.

THE DIPLOMAT CITED AS AN EXAMPLE THE SIX-POINT CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT THAT MR. KISSINGER NEGOTIATED THREE WEEKS AGO. HE SAID THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PLAN HAD BEEN AGREED UPON BY PREMIER MEIR AND PRESIDENT NIXON A WEEK BEFORE THE KISSINGER VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST. THE SOURCE

EXPLAINED THAT ONCE MR.KISSINGER GOT TO EGYPT, HE HAD TO MAKE IT APPEAR THAT ISRAEL'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PLAN WAS

IN DOUBT. AMERICAN OFFICIALS WOULD NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY THIS ACCOUNT.

THE SOURCE DESCRIBED PAST MEETINGS WITH MRS. MEIR BY MR. NIXON AND MR. KISSINGER AS DEVOID OF THREATS. HE DEPICTED A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE WHERE AT ONE POINT THE PRESIDENT SAID TO THE PREMIER QUOTE WE HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON-- WE BOTH HAVE JEWISH FOREIGN SECRETARIES UNQUOTE. TO WHICH THE SOURCE SAID MRS. MEIR HAD RESPONDED QUOTE YES, BUT MINE SPEAKS WITHOUT AN ACCENT UNQUOTE.

THE SENIOR DIPLOMAT SAID THAT ISRAEL RECOGNIZED THAT THE CLIMATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS WOULD BE LESS FAVORABLE AS FACTORS FOR A CHANGE. HE NOTED ISRAEL'S GROWING DIPLOMATIC ISOLATION, THE ARAB OIL EMBARGO, AND PARTICULARLY THE POLITICAL MOMENTUM OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

THIS DETENTE, ACCORDING TO AN INTELLIGENCE EXPERT, IS NOT EXPECTED TO LEAD TO SOVIET PRESSURES ON EGYPT AND SYRIA. THIS EXPERT BELIEVES THAT MOSCOW WILL HELP MAINTAIN THE FORMS OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE, BUT NOT IN URGING CONCESSIONS BY ITS ARAB ALLIES.

MEANWHILE, NONE OF THE AMERICAN OFFICIALS INTERVIEWED WOULD PREDICT THE PROBABLE EFFECTIVENESS OF WASHINGTON'S PROJECTED PRESSURES ON ISRAEL.

THE INFORMED DIPLOMAT OBSERVED THAT ISRAEL WAS A DEMOCRACY, SUBJECT TO THE VAGARIES OF ELECTORAL POLITICS.  
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HE SAID THAT CONCESSIONS THAT SEEMED REASONABLE IN AMERICA MIGHT NOT BE POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE IN ISRAEL.

QUOTE NIXON AND KISSINGER UNQUOTE THE DIPLOMAT SAID, QUOTE ARE USED TO DEALING WITH DICTATORS IN CHINA AND RUSSIA, WHO CAN MAKE DECISIONS ON THE SPOT UNQUOTE. QUICK DECISIONS, HE SUGGESTED, WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING FROM ISRAEL. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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